

# *Trees on Maine Street*

∞ *The Project Canopy Bulletin* ∞

Sept-Oct 2015



## Community Forestry Grants Available

AUGUSTA, Maine – Project Canopy, the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry's community forestry program, will award \$150,000 in grants to local governments and municipalities, educational institutions and non-profit organizations that support community efforts to develop and maintain long-term community forestry programs.

Funded by the U.S. Forest Service, the Project Canopy grants are available in two categories: planning and education grants and tree planting and maintenance grants. The average grants range from \$6,000 to \$8,000 and require a 50-percent cost-share with cash or in-kind services. Since 2005, Project Canopy has awarded more than \$1.5 million in funding for community forestry projects.

Project Canopy is a cooperative partnership between the Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry's Maine Forest Service and GrowSmart Maine. It encourages communities to develop project proposals that support sustainable community forestry management, increase awareness of the benefits of trees and forests, and increase the health and livability of communities through sound tree planting and maintenance.

Project Canopy Director Jan Ames Santerre provided recent examples of community projects that can benefit from Project Canopy grants. Projects of note in 2014 include 3 projects in Farmington (\$4,000), Kennebunkport (\$4,919), and Monmouth (\$4,000) for shade tree inventory and management planning for street trees; and two projects in Fort Kent (\$8,000) and Ellsworth (\$8,000) that allowed those towns to plant trees in town parks. "In addition to helping communities with general maintenance planning, these grants allow towns to respond to threats from invasive pests such as the emerald ash borer. They can also support community beautification through street tree planting," said Santerre.

The planning and education grants have a maximum award of \$10,000, while the planting and maintenance grants have a maximum award of \$8,000. To be eligible to apply for a 2015 assistance grant, all applicants must attend a grant workshop before submitting an application. Grant workshops will be scheduled in October or November (date TBD) via the web. The workshops will cover such topics as grant writing, project development, sustainable community forestry management and grant administration.

Grant applications are due by 5:00 p.m., Friday, December 4.

To learn more about the Project Canopy Assistance program and to sign up for a grant workshop, contact Project Canopy Director Jan Ames Santerre at (207) 287-4987.

More information is available on the web at <http://www.projectcanopy.me>.

### PROJECT CANOPY

assists communities and nonprofit, grassroots organizations in building self-sustaining urban and community forestry programs with strong local support.

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## News and Updates

### Currants, Gooseberries, and White Pine Blister Rust

Over the past several years, interest has increased throughout the Northeast in growing and cultivating currants, gooseberries and other species in the genus *Ribes* for backyard and commercial fruit production. Stimulated by development of varieties that were either resistant or immune to the white pine blister rust pathogen, *Cronartium ribicola*, several states, including New York and New Hampshire, have eased the once-standard and universal quarantine of *Ribes* plants that protected white pine and that had been in place for many decades. Unlike neighboring states, Maine never changed its *Ribes* quarantine law, and that decision has worked to our advantage. A new strain of blister rust, identified in late 2010, is now known to be able to infect previously resistant and immune species and cultivars of *Ribes*.

The USDA Forest Service completed a study in 2014 to determine the effects of this new strain of blister rust on *Ribes* and its white pine hosts in New Hampshire. The presence of blister rust was confirmed on 17 of the 19 immune or resistant *Ribes* cultivars screened. The study also reported an 18 percent probability of finding white pine blister rust on pines neighboring black currants that were infected with the new strain but only a 2 percent probability of finding the rust on pines neighboring pathogen-free *Ribes*. The difference was highly significant both statistically and epidemiologically. The full report appears at <http://apsjournals.apsnet.org/doi/abs/10.1094/PDIS-12-14-1338-RE>.

Results from this study show that the breakdown of resistance in *Ribes* poses a significant threat to white pine and to cultivated *Ribes* production. For this reason, all Maine farmers and gardeners need to be aware that the state quarantine prohibiting the culture of European black currants (*Ribes nigrum*) and all its cultivars throughout the state, and prohibiting European black currants and ALL other *Ribes* species in the defined quarantine zone, remains in effect. More information, including the map and town list of the Maine quarantine areas can be viewed at: [http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest\\_health/quarantine\\_information.html#wpbr](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest_health/quarantine_information.html#wpbr).

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### To read the latest Forests for Maine's Future Newsletter

<http://www.forestsfomainesfuture.org/new-from-the-woods/>

### Update: Profiles of Woodland Stewardship Video Series

-Andy Shultz, Maine Forest Service

The Maine Forest Service (MFS) continues to build its documentary series Profiles of Woodland Stewardship. These short videos and slideshows portray true stories of Maine's woodlands and the people who care for them. The landowners profiled here are model stewards; their woodlands are visible demonstrations of woodland conservation applied on the ground. Each story shows the interaction of actively managed woodlands with woodland owner family members, resource professionals, recreational users, and the local community. The stories illustrate the concept of the Stewardship Storyline where stewardship is seen as a series of steps.

The latest video profilees are the city of Portland (Maine's largest city) and private woodland owners in the Town of Baldwin area. Baldwin is a rural, mostly forested community about 25 miles northwest of Portland. The videos are posted on both the MFS YouTube site and the MFS Profiles of Woodland Stewardship Web page.

[Read the full Profiles of Woodland Stewardship video series story.](#)



#### September:

14-17 NASF Meeting, Lake Tahoe, CA  
19 Maine Tree Climbing Competition, Deering Oaks  
26 National Public Lands Day  
26 Landowner Appreciation Cleanup Contest, 287-5240  
27 Ash Sunday, Francis Small Heritage Trust  
28-30 Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ), SMCC

#### October

3 Chainsaw Use, Everwood Tree Farm, North Waterboro, SWOAM.org  
14-15 Project Learning Tree Educator Workshop, York County Soil and Water Conservation District, Pat Maloney, 626 7990



*"She calls it "stick season," this slow disrobing of summer, leaf by leaf, till the bores of tall trees rattle and scrape in the wind."  
- Eric Pinder*

## INTRODUCING YOUR MAINE FOREST SERVICE DISTRICT FORESTERS

As we all hunker down and dream of walking in the woods without first adding multiple layers of clothing, it's a good time to ask, "Do you know who your District Forester is?" There are currently 10 District Foresters, covering the entire state. Over the next few weeks, we'll introduce these folks to you.

District Foresters are the Maine Forest Service's point persons for contact with woodland owners, loggers and foresters, and the citizenry at large. District Foresters lead educational workshops and woods tours, talk to school children and community groups, and work with private foresters and loggers to implement good woodland management. Most important, they can meet with you in your woods, and help you take the next step to achieve your goals for your land.

### Dan Jacobs, Island Falls

Dan Jacobs, shown here with his daughter Hannah, has been a District Forester for the past 15 years. His office is in Island Falls; he covers the southern portion of Aroostook County plus a few towns in northern Penobscot County as well. His forestry education includes an MS from Penn State, a BS from Utah State, and an AS from Unity College. Prior to working for the Maine Forest Service, Dan was a forester for International Paper Company, based in Clayton Lake. He has also worked as a forester for the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians. Dan chaired the committee that prepared the new book *The Forestry Rules of Maine*, and he looks forward to assisting woodland owners and forestry professionals in Maine for many more years.

Did you know you can always find the Forest & Shade Tree - Insect & Disease Conditions for Maine online? Visit [http://maine.gov/dacf/mfs/publications/condition\\_reports.html](http://maine.gov/dacf/mfs/publications/condition_reports.html)

Dan's contact information and the towns he covers can be found here:

[http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/policy\\_management/ff/ne\\_df.html](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/policy_management/ff/ne_df.html)



As always, you can call the Maine Forest Service for more information or assistance at 1 800 367-0223 (in state) or (207) 287-2791, or e-mail [forestinfo@maine.gov](mailto:forestinfo@maine.gov)



### Look Familiar?

Tar Leaf Spot of Norway Maple  
*Rhytisma acerinum*

Learn more at: [http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest\\_health/diseases/tar\\_leaf\\_spot\\_on\\_norway\\_maple.htm](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest_health/diseases/tar_leaf_spot_on_norway_maple.htm)

*"A few days ago I walked along the edge of the lake and was treated to the crunch and rustle of leaves with each step I made. The acoustics of this season are different and all sounds, no matter how hushed, are as crisp as autumn air."*

*- Eric Sloane*

Find us on the web at [projectcanopy.me](http://projectcanopy.me), on Facebook at [facebook.com/ProjectCanopy](https://www.facebook.com/ProjectCanopy) or on twitter [@ProjectCanopy](https://twitter.com/ProjectCanopy)



*"October's poplars are flaming torches lighting the way to winter."  
- Nova Bair*

## Community Wrap-up

### Forest Pest Outreach Training

**Tuesday, September 15, 2015; 11:00 AM - 3:30 PM.**  
**Saco City Hall, 300 Main St., Saco, ME.** The MeDACF Forest Pest Outreach Project and its partners are offering workshops to train people to recognize, report and spread awareness about the Asian longhorned beetle (ALB), emerald ash borer (EAB), and hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) and other invasive tree pests. Three continuing education credits are available for licensed foresters and pesticide applicators; ½ day credit for Certified Logging Professionals. For more details see: [www.maine.gov/alb](http://www.maine.gov/alb) under "What's new?" in the right hand column. Registration requested—Contact Lorraine Taft at [lorraine.taft@gmail.com](mailto:lorraine.taft@gmail.com) or (207) 832-6241.

Approved for the following education credits: Maine BPC pesticide credits (3); SAF category 1 CFE/ME Lic. Forester (3); CLP (1/2 day)

### Green Roof Reduces Stormwater Discharge and Mediates Temperatures in Northern Forest Region

Impervious surfaces, such as pavement and roofs, in urban ecosystems often result in uncontrolled, rapid runoff of stormwater. During runoff events, the high volume of water deposited into waterways carries pollutants from impervious surfaces and silt from erosion and contributes to elevated water temperatures. Green roofs are a new way to reduce stormwater impacts.

NSRC researchers used 8 rooftop watersheds on the Aiken Center at the University of Vermont that are monitored separately to provide water quality and water flow rates. Four green roof treatments, replicated twice, consisted of standard plants with standard soil, standard plants with alternative biochar soil, alternative plants with standard soil, and non-planted control. temperature probes. Findings confirm that green roof treatments had significantly less discharge than controls. [Read more...](#)

### Houlton Completes Project Canopy Grant Project



On May 18th and 19th, District Forester Dan Jacobs worked with the Town of Houlton to implement a Project Canopy tree planting grant. The project involved the replacement of 27 green ash in the downtown area with tree lilacs and littleleaf lindens. Jacobs worked with the town's road crew and volunteers from the Chamber of Commerce to plant the trees. Many of the business owners in downtown Houlton stopped to thank the volunteers and road crew during the planting operation. All in all, the planting went well and Jacobs expects this will be considered a successful Project Canopy grant project.

*"The leaves fall, the wind blows, and the farm country slowly changes from the summer cottons into its winter wools."  
- Henry Beston, Northern Farm*

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY  
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